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National Project!

County Agricultural Planning and Countynent of Agriculture Participation in Continuing National

Agricultural Adjustment

Purpose:

To formulate by democratic procedure continuing county, state, and national programs for agriculture.

Immediate Objectives:

- 1. To assemble from each county by March 15, 1936, a schedule of information which may be used with regional and national data in order to insure a better coordination of county, regional, and national programs.
- 2. To promote a better understanding on the part of farmers, generally, of both the basic facts and problems involved in agricultural adjustment for 1936, as well as for future years.
- 3. To perfect procedure for collection, analysis, and dissemination of information needed for action programs. There is need for improvement in the procedure for bringing local facts and judgments to the attention of antional agencies, and for bringing national facts and judgments of national leaders to the attention of local people.
- 4. To establish definitely a feeling of local responsibility for assisting in the development of broad national policies as well as for the formulation and administration of local programs.
- 5. To develop a procedure for continuing the project after March 15, 1936.

Cooperating Agencies:

U. S. Department of Agriculture, all branches, bureaus and services of the same through the Agricultural Extension Service in the 2836 counties in the United States having county agricultural agents. Cooperation is anticipated from 5500 Smith-Hughes agricultural teachers, 2500 members of the faculties and staffs of the colleges of agriculture and experiment stations of the 48 states, the national farm organizations with their county and local organizations.

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Suggested Organization:

In Washington:

- 1. Intra-departmental committee, clearing through Federal Extension Service.
- 2. All branches of the U.S.D.A. affecting agricultural policy in counties in the United States to contribute.
- 3. Leadership of Program Planning Division of the A.A.A.
- 4. (Possibly a National Committee)

In each state:

- 1. State project leader to be appointed by Director of Extension Service.
- 2. A committee to be set up in the agricultural college and experiment station.
- 3. A state committee to be made up of representative men and women of the state.

In each county:

- 1. County agricultural agent to be leader of the project.
- 2. County committee in general charge of the project.
- 3. Special committee on commodities and special problems.
- 4. Also committee in each community.

Suggested Content of the Project:

A schodule of information to be secured and developed in each agricultural county in the United States. A similar schedule will be used in all counties. Such a schedule would contain information which is necessary to fit into and supplement regional and national data. Opportunity would be provided for inclusion in the schedule of additional items pertaining to county and local problems.

Collection of Factual Material:

All pertinent, available factual material bearing upon this project to be rounded up, - this material to be secured from

various sources such as census data, soil surveys, records of shipments, production control contracts, etc. The following points might be included in the national schedule.

- 1. Recent social and economic changes in agriculture in the county, covering perhaps the last 10 or 15 years. This might involve trends in production, marketing, transportation, and population.
- 2. Classification of the farms in the county according to types of farms, farm organization, and average yields of principal agricultural commodities.
- 3. Estimate of production needed for home consumption, or for desirable home consumption, by farmers in the county and for supplying local market areas.
- 4. Changes in farming practices as a result of recent experiment station data and experience of successful farmers.
- 5. Classification of lands of the county for the purpose of land use planning, and designation of submarginal and recreational areas.
- 6. Agricultural rehabilitation in the county, possibilities of agricultural settlement, and problem of tenants.
- 7. Calculation of agricultural income of county on basis of prevailing prices and actual production at agreed upon intervals during the last 20 years.
- 8. Estimates of benefit payments on basic commodities and tariff differentials on items consumed by farmers.
- 9. Estimates of total production of different commercial agricultural commodities in county to be sold under normal weather conditions for 1936, with four assumptions:
 - a. Present (base period) form organization and method of farming without production control.
 - b. Adjustment of the agriculture of the county to conform to a program of good farming, soil conservation, land use, etc., without production control.
 - c. Estimated production with present farm organization with production control quotas of AAA for 1936.
 - d. Assuming that agriculture in the county is adjusted as in (b) to good farming, soil conservation, and comparative advantage in production, but that through the loss

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of markets 50 million acres in the United States must be withdrawn from cultivation, the pro rata share for this county will be ______acres. How would this affect the total production in this county and what use would be made of the land taken out of production of basic commodities?

Suggested Use of Schedule:

- 1. The material resulting from studies in all counties to be submitted on the 15th of February to:
 - a. Regional committees (one committee to be established in each of the major agricultural regions in the United States).
 - b. A national committee in Washington.
- 2. An analysis to be made by the national committee, representing the Department of Agriculture, Land Grant Colleges, farm organizations, commodity associations, etc.
- 3 The result of this analysis to be returned to each region and to each agricultural county to serve as a basis for meetings to be held by the county agent for the purpose of coordinating the program of the county with regional and national programs.

Suggested Time Schodule:

August 20 to September 14: This project is being presented at four regional conferences in order to secure advice and suggestions of college and experiment station representatives, and for the purpose of developing a cooperative program.

1. Conference Dates:

Ames, Iowa August 22, 23, 24
Logan, Utah August 26, 27, 28
Athens, Georgia September 5, 6, 7
Storrs, Connecticut September 12, 13, 14

September 15 to October 4: Meeting in Washington of the Extension Committee of Land Grant Colleges, agricultural economists, State Directors of Experiment Stations, and representatives of the Department of Agriculture, to formulate the final plans, provide for appointments within each state of state project leader, Land Grant College Committee, and committee of representative farmers.

October 7 to October 12: National school at Washington for state project leaders and national workers. This school to be attended as far as practical, by three people from each state - the state project leader, the chairman of the college committee, the chairman of the state farm committee.

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October 14 to January 1: Fact gathering period and organization in county.

January 1 to February 15: Active discussion period in county, community meetings, committee meetings of various committees, and working out of the project in the county.

February 15 to March 1: Assembling county totals by states and major regions, analysis of the same, interpretation of regional and national outlook, and return of material to each county.

March 1 to March 15: Final meetings in county on the 1936 program.

March 15 to April 1: Review of program and plans for continuation of project.

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